

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/750,553

Examiner

Peggy A. Neils

Applicant(s)

FREKING ET AL.

Art Unit

2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE request filed 1/13/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date W/24/05, 1/13/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-23 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-6 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 1 sets forth a method of making an optical product which includes an optical film with a first surface having prism elements, laminating a protective cover to the optical film to form a web, cutting the web and a cover removal tab. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art. Claims 7-9 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 7 sets forth a method of making an optical product, cutting an optical sheet of a web and a protective cover sheet with a first die shaped to divide an optical film and a removal tab and cutting the web with a second die having the shape of the optical film with the removal tab. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art. Claims 10-14 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 10 sets forth a method of making an optical product comprising laminating a protective cover sheet to an optical film sheet to form a web, severing the web to form an optical product, comprised of a protective cover and optical film with a removal tab. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art. Claims 15-20 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 15 sets forth a optical product with a removal tab comprising a protective cover stacked on the optical film with the protective cover being continuous between the optical product and removal tab and the optical film being discontinuous between the optical product and the removal tab. This combination of limitations was not shown or

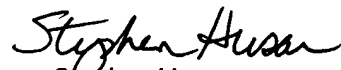
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suggested by the prior art. Claims 21-23 are allowable over the prior art because Claim 21 sets forth an optical product with a removal tab comprising a layer of a protective cover stacked on a layer of optical film, a tab comprised of the layers attached to an edge of the product so that the protective cover is continuous between the product and the tab and a cut in the layer of the optical film, the cut dividing the product and the tab such that the optical film is discontinuous between the product and the tab. The combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Examiner Neils at (571) 272-2377 on a Monday or Thursday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378.


Stephen Husar
Primary Examiner